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Aug 1959

S-E-C-R-E-T

Recent Information Concerning the Seventh World Youth Festival, Vienna, 26 July - 4 August 1959

1. WFDY and Festival propaganda reflect Soviet determination to hold the Festival in Vienna "come what may". Alarmed by the Free World youth and student opposition to the Festival developing in early 1959 in sympathy with Austrian youth and student organizations' protests and boycott, the Festival's Permanent Commission (PC) in Vienna and the WFDY have made a herculean effort since February 1959 to launch a massive, world-wide counteraction campaign. Komsomolskaya Pravda on 18 April 1959 stated that the PC had sent out about 20,000 letters in early April 1959 alone, while two months earlier the WFDY had provided all National Festival Preparatory Committees and WFDY-IUS affiliates with letters and literature containing point-by-point rebuttals of the principal arguments of those advocating boycott of the Festival. The WFDY also furnished these organizations with a twelve-page list of the names and addresses of all sorts of Austrian youth and student organizations (sports, cultural, political, religious, factory and trade union groups, etc.) and urged them to organize an exchange of correspondence with their Austrian counterparts as quickly as possible to secure either Austrian participation at the Festival or agreement to meet during the Festival to discuss common problems and exchange information. The WFDY urged these organizations "to make use of all means of propaganda" (e.g., radio broadcasts beamed to Austria, transmittal of photographs and newsclippings and magazine articles, in German if possible) to convince not only Austrian youth and students but also prominent or influential Austrian personalities (M.P.'s, journalists, government officials) of the purported breadth and representative character of support and preparations for the Festival in each country.

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2. In addition to the correspondence offensive, greater emphasis than ever before has been placed on direct contacts with key Free World youth leaders--either by bringing them to Vienna to work for one or two weeks with the PC or by having PC members or WFDY-IUS officials travel widely--in order to stimulate the type of support and national preparatory activity desired and to help solve specific problems in various countries.

3. Although the tempo of preparatory activity in the Free World has increased as the Festival draws near, reports indicate that such activity is still generally lagging behind that achieved during a similar stage in preparations for the Sixth World Youth Festival. However, this time more Free World delegates are being brought to Communist China and the Soviet Union for one to four weeks' pre-Festival travel (which of course provides ample opportunity for formally or informally training, briefing or generally indoctrinating such delegates). Greater effort is also being made to obtain participation of Festival delegates at special "international youth camps" (run by WFDY-IUS affiliates with WFDY-IUS support, primarily in the Bloc and to a lesser extent in Free Europe) both before and after the Festival. The organizers are also attempting to attract large numbers of young Free World tourists to Vienna during the Festival, by having the National Festival Committees publicize many greatly reduced post-Festival round-trip tours from Vienna to various Soviet bloc countries and the Soviet Union. As "bait", the organizers' Bloc affiliates are making available to delegates a large number of post-Festival travel grants in the Soviet Bloc (including 350 travel grants to the USSR alone for "discussion groups and study trips"). Special effort will undoubtedly be made to get "desirable" representatives from non-affiliated organizations to attend the WFDY's Assembly of Member Organizations

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(Prague, 10-16 August 1959) as "observers". By having large numbers of tourists in Vienna during the Festival (who would probably be able to attend all activities except those in which some type of discussion or "comments from the floor" could occur), the organizers could ensure that the general "mass character" of the Festival would compare favorably with previous Festivals without jeopardizing the over-all security and cadre control.

4. Reports indicate that the quotas of many national delegations have been changed--in some instances increased but in most instances cut back somewhat--from allocations made by the PC in June 1958. It is not yet clear to what extent such changes represent voluntary reductions made by National Festival Committees themselves for various reasons (e.g., inability to fill allocated quotas because of governmental proscription or interference, opposition by non-Communist youth and student organizations, lack of adequate funds, or in order to screen out potentially disruptive elements and maintain firmer Communist delegation control), or whether they represent changes made at the request of the PC (e.g., for political, logistic, financial or security reasons). The following changes have been reported at this time from allocations originally made by the PC in June 1958:

a. Middle Eastern participation has reportedly been reduced by about 46%, or by about 840 delegates. This reduction includes the previously allocated 600-strong United Arab Republic delegation that will not be sent, ostensibly for financial reasons. A small "unofficial" UAR contingent will, however, probably attend. Only the Iraqi delegation was increased (purportedly by 50 delegates), while the Israeli and Jordanian delegations were reduced by 50 delegates each

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and the Indian delegation by 100.

b. Free European participation has purportedly been reduced by about 22% (or by about 1,545 delegates). The two largest reductions thus far are for Yugoslavia (from 450 to 250 delegates) and Finland (from 700 to 450).

c. Free Asian participation has reportedly been cut back about 17%, or by about 75 delegates (including 50 less from Indonesia and 10 less from Laos and Thailand). The Philippines Government has announced that it will not permit delegates to attend the Festival.

d. Over-all African participation remains about the same, despite changes in quotas of individual delegations. The following delegations have reportedly been increased by about 33% since June 1958 (or by about 5 to 10 more delegates in most cases): Middle Congo, French Guinea, Madagascar, Nigeria and Upper Volta. The Moroccan quota (accidentally omitted by the PC in June 1958) has now been set at 120. The following delegations have, however, reportedly been reduced by more than 60% (ranging from 3 to 30 less delegates): Gambia, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Ruanda-Urundi and Zanzibar. Ethiopian participation is purportedly cut back about 33%, Tunisian about 20% less and Ghanaian about 29% less. Reports indicate that delegates from the Sudan and possibly other African countries will not be allowed to leave their respective countries to attend the Festival.

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e. Latin American participation has purportedly been increased by about 15% from the June 1958 PC regional allocation, or by about 200 more delegates. The reported major increases are for Argentina (50 more delegates), Brazil (100 more) and Venezuela (20 more). The following reductions, however, have been reported: Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Peru and Paraguay have been reduced by about 25% to 33% (or some 5 to 20 delegates less in each case); Cuba reduced by 12% (or 10 less), Uruguay by 22% (or 20 less); the largest reductions reported are for Bolivia (50%), Costa Rica (66%) and Nicaragua (75%).

f. North American participation remains about the same.

g. Sino-Soviet bloc participation has reportedly been reduced by almost 16%, or by about 865 delegates than those allocated by the PC in June 1958. Only the Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Soviet delegations have not been reduced, with the Hungarian delegation reportedly being increased by about 50 delegates. Such cutbacks would, of course, permit more housing space to be made available for Free World delegates and would also permit greater control over individual delegates. This rationale is substantiated by the report that delegations from countries bordering on the Danube (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Rumania) are to be housed on the ships on which they travel to Vienna. Other Bloc delegations may be similarly housed. Reports indicate that special briefing and training is being given Bloc

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delegates on how to behave and how to answer provocative questions.

5. Although it is not yet clear how firm these changes might be, it is apparent that greatly increased financial aid will have to be forthcoming from Festival organizers if delegation quotas in many countries are to be met. As a result, the organizers may be expected to provide a large number of last-minute travel grants to various National Festival Committees, particularly for key individuals in target countries who would otherwise not attend. The organizers may also be expected to help fill certain deficient national delegation quotas by coopting as "delegates" trusted nationals studying, working or traveling outside their countries in Free Europe or in the Soviet bloc. This may be especially true in cases where governments have proscribed attendance by their nationals, or where National Festival Committees in distant areas have been unable to raise sufficient funds to defray travel expenses. Estimates of the over-all number of delegates expected to attend range from 15, 000 to 20,000; however, the PC's June 1958 allocation of some 17,000 is still more frequently reported by the organizers. Of the total, the sponsors claim some 2,000 delegates will be students. Allegedly, over 1,000 youth organizations will be represented.

6. This time greater responsibility has been and will be given to the Communist cadre of each National Festival Committee and Free World national delegation to maintain strong control over its delegates and thus help insure over-all security. Each delegate must be selected or approved by the National Festival Committee in his country and each Committee has been advised to screen out any potential provocateur or troublemaker. Each delegate must advise his National Committee in advance

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what meetings and seminars he desires to attend and his proposed role in each, e.g., delivering a report at the Meeting of Young Metal Workers on what is being done in his country to help protect the health of young metal workers. (Because only a very few delegates from each country can attend the relatively small meetings and seminars, each National Committee is to select those purportedly best qualified to attend the special meeting in question.) Each delegation is to bring along its own contingent of interpreters. They will service the delegates in their general contacts--and, to the extent that delegates do not know German, French, or English, will act as a very effective control over their activities. Such interpreters will, of course, be supplemented by other "reliables" provided by the PC, by the World Peace Council, the Free Austrian Youth, other Communist mass organizations in Austria, and the WFDY and the IUS. The Communist cadre in each National Committee and/or delegation is also to set up "criteria" on the basis of which certain delegates will be selected for post-Festival travel grants. It is not known whether the Committee merely recommends those it considers "qualified" to the PC, the WFDY, IUS or one of their Bloc affiliates, which then actually makes the selection, or whether each national Communist cadre makes its own selections for these bodies. Finally, reports indicate that far more Soviet bloc scholarships than ever before will be awarded to delegates (particularly from Asia and Africa) at the Festival. The WFDY-IUS national affiliates probably make advisory recommendations to the issuing group which makes the actual selections.

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